

201-15348



June 10, 2004

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 1473
Merrifield, VA 22116

Attn: HPV Chemical Challenge Program

Dear Administrator Leavitt:

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This letter is to inform you that the American Chemistry Council's Brominated Phthalates Panel (Panel) will serve as an industry consortium to coordinate activities for Phthalic Acid Tetrabromo Ester (CAS # 26040-51-7) under the HPV Chemical Challenge Program ("Program").

The following three companies are currently members of the Panel: Teknor Apex Company, Great Lakes Chemical Corporation and Unitex Chemical Company. Each of these companies previously sent a separate letter to EPA regarding its commitment to sponsor this chemical under the HPV Program.

The letters address the companies' commitment to the Program. If, for any reason, this voluntary initiative is not completed by the Panel, then any express or implied commitments to the Program will devolve to the manufacturers and importers of the chemical.

The Panel and its member companies understand that sponsorship entails: (1) assembling and reviewing available test data; (2) developing and providing a test plan for the sponsored chemical; and, where needed, (3) conducting additional testing. The test data and any other study information that the Panel's HPV Testing Group will provide under the Program will be made publicly available in the form of "robust summaries" as contemplated in the *Framework for Voluntary Testing of High Production Volume (HPV) Chemicals* (10/8/98). The Panel plans to submit the test plan and robust summaries by July 1, 2004.

Marian K. Stanley, Manager of the Brominated Phthalate Esters Panel, will serve as the technical contact for the group. She can be reached by phone at 703-741-5623 or by fax at 703-741-6091.

Sincerely yours,

Courtney M. Price
Vice President, CHEMSTAR

cc: Brominated Phthalates Panel
Richard Denison, Environmental Defense
Diane Sheridan, EPA OPPT/OCD



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